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(*d*) whether the Government have acquired or are acquiring lands for the purpose?

A.—Some land was acquired last year for permanent station arrangements at Kurichipalla. The South Indian Railway's proposal made no mention of any intention that it should be the junction of the Mysore-Kanara Railway and there is no proposal for such a Railway before Government.

II

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

(*a*)

The Secretary laid on the table copies of the proceedings of the fifteenth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1925–26 held on 5th February 1926.

(*b*)

With reference to the answer to the supplementary question to question No. 1165 given at the meeting of the Council held on 17th December 1925, the Secretary laid on the table copies of the Report of the Collector on special duty for land acquisition, Cauvery (Mettur) project.

III

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926—27.

[An Asterisk * at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Before we proceed to the next order of the day, I should like to announce to the House that under sub-rule 3 of rule 28 of the Legislative Council Rules I have fixed, according to the practice hitherto adopted, a time-limit of 15 minutes for each hon. Member's speech during that discussion. The afternoon of the third day will be at the disposal of the hon. Members of the Government to make their replies."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, may I draw your attention to the letter that I addressed to you the other day in which I requested that you will kindly be pleased to move the Government to take steps to change the order of the discussion of the budget in such a manner as to bring those subjects which have not been discussed in the previous years for discussion at first now?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is a question for the Finance Department of the Government."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"Sir, the budget as presented to the House shows that our repeated representations to the Government have been of no use whatever. Last year, Member after Member pressed upon the Government that they should not adopt the policy of providing for expenditure in anticipation of something turning up. Last year, the budget closed with a deficit of 90 lakhs, with the result that when the Government of India remitted Rs. 126 lakhs, as much as Rs 90 lakhs was swallowed up by this deficit. We urged upon the Government that that was bad and that they should provide for expenditure only after considering the ways and means. This sort of muddling in finance without due consideration